Warden Message U.S. Embassy Dakar, Senegal Security Precautions

December 15, 2010

With the approach of the Muslim New Year on December 16, U.S. citizens in Senegal are reminded to practice good security habits. On the evening of Wednesday, December 15th, local residents will in accordance with tradition, go door to door seeking gifts or food. In past years, criminal elements have used this custom as an opportunity to conduct push-in style robberies. U.S. citizens are encouraged to be aware of this tactic and to positively identify anyone knocking on doors or ringing doorbells before opening perimeter gates.

Citizens should also make sure that their contact and personal information with the Embassy is up-to-date. They can do this by enrolling in the Smart Travelers Enrollment Program (STEP). Get the latest Embassy security information by checking the consular pages on the U.S. Embassy Dakar website at http://dakar.usembassy.gov. You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State's, Bureau of Consular Affairs website where you can find the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information. We encourage U.S. Citizens to review A Safe Trip Abroad found at: http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/safety/safety 1180.html, which includes valuable security information for those both living and traveling abroad. In addition to information on the Internet, travelers may obtain up-to-date information on security conditions by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or, outside the United States and Canada on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444.

If you have questions or concerns about safety or related issues, you are encouraged to contact the consular section at the Embassy by sending an email message to consulardakar@state.gov. In emergencies and for urgent security matters, you can call the Embassy switchboard at (221) 33 829-2100; the emergency after-hours telephone is: 33-829-2109

The U.S. Embassy is located at Avenue Jean XXIII, Dakar; the mailing address is B.P. 49, Dakar, Senegal.